

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-09

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DRAFTED BY OES/NET/NEP:RDEMING:JW
APPROVED BY OES/NET:LVNOSENZO
EUR/RPE:WSALISBURY
T/D:JNYE
S/AS: PFARLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188829

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, MNUC, TECH

SUBJECT: US-SPAIN NUCLEAR COOPERATION

REF: MADRID 2410

1. EMBASSY WILL RECALL THAT DURING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY NOSENZO'S MARCH 3-4 DISCUSSIONS IN MADRID, MANUAEL BARROSO, MFA DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION, INDICATED PRIVATELY TO NOSENZO THAT GOS ANTICIPATED MOVING FORWARD WITH PLACING VALDELLOS UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS AND THAT THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED IN 3-4 MONTHS.

2. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH THE FRENCH, THEY HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO IAEA SAFEGUARDS ON VANDELLOS
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AS LONG AS APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE SO THAT SAFEGUARDS WOULD NOT FOLLOW THE SPENT FUEL INTO FRANCE (WHERE IT IS REPROCESSED). WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH SAFEGUARDS ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE WORKED OUT UNDER THE PROVISIONS FOR IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT.

3. THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEFORE IT TWO NUCLEAR EXPORT LICENSE

APPLICATIONS (XSNM-,169 FOR 88,636 KILOGRAMS OF LOW-

ENRICHED URANIUM FOR THE INITIAL CORE LOADING OF THE SAYAGO REACTOR; AND XSNM-1185 FOR 73,173 KILOGRAMS OF LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM FOR THE INITIAL CORE LOADING OF THE VANDELLOS II REACTOR. THE MATERIAL UNDER BOTH OF THESE APPLICATIONS IS SCHEDULED TO BE SHIPPED AFTER MARCH 15, 1980 WHEN THE FULL-SCOPE SAFEGUARD REQUIREMENT IN THE NON-PROLIFERATION ACT OF 1978 WILL COME INTO EFFECT. THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, THEREFORE, CANNOT MAKE A FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION ON THESE EXPORTS UNTIL WE CAN POINT TO CONCRETE ACTIONS BY GOS TO PLACE VANDELLOS UNDER SAFEGUARDS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: DRAWING ON PARAS 1 AND 3 ABOVE, AS EMBASSY DEEMS APPROPRIATE, PLEASE QUERY GOS ON STATUS OF THE VANDELLOS SAFEGUARDS MATTER, UNDERLINING THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO EARLY ACTION AND PRESENTED IN TERMS OF OUR ATTEMPTING TO SOLVE A MUTUAL PROBLEM. CHRISTOPHER

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